

**DECLARATION**

As a below named inventor, I hereby declare that:

My residence, post office address and citizenship are stated below next to my name;

that I verily believe that I am the original, first and joint inventor of the invention entitled  
RESTRAINING GASKET FOR MECHANICAL JOINTS OF PIPES described and claimed in the  
specification filed herewith;

that I have reviewed and understand the contents of the specification, including the claims;

that I do not know and do not believe the same was ever known or used in the United States of  
America before my invention thereof, or patented or described in any printed publication in any country  
before my invention thereof for more than one year prior to the filing of the application filed herewith; I  
acknowledge the duty to disclose all information which is material to patentability as defined in 37 CFR  
1.56;

that the same was not in public use or on sale in the United States of America more than one  
year prior to the filing of the application filed herewith;

that the invention has not been patented or made the subject of an inventor's certificate issued  
before the date of filing of the application filed herewith in any country foreign to the United States of  
America on an application filed by me or my legal representatives or assigns more than twelve months  
prior to the application filed herewith;

that I acknowledge my duty to disclose information of which I am aware which is material to  
the examination of this application, and that I believe such information is included in the above  
identified application; and

that no application for patent or inventor's certificate on this invention has been filed in any  
country foreign to the United States of America prior to the date of filing of the above identified  
application by me or my legal representatives or assigns.

I hereby declare that all statements made herein of my own knowledge are true and that all statements made  
on information and belief are believed to be true; and further that these statements were made with the knowledge that  
willful false statements and the like so made are punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both, under Section 1001 of  
Title 18 of the United States Code and that such willful false statements may jeopardize the validity of the application  
or any patent issued thereon.

[This page is followed by a page entitled "Power of Attorney"]

**POWER OF ATTORNEY:**

As a named inventor, I hereby consent to the appointment of the following attorney(s) and/or agent(s) listed below to prosecute this application and transact all business in the Patent and Trademark Office connected therewith.

**All Registered Patent Practitioners whose Registration Numbers are  
associated with Customer Number 23378**

My giving of such consent shall not be construed as an indication that such consent is necessary.

**Send Correspondence to:**

**The Correspondence Address associated  
with Customer Number 23378,  
to the specific ATTENTION of  
Nathan W. Johnson, Reg. No. 44,173**

**Direct Telephone Calls To:**

**Nathan W. Johnson,  
Reg. No. 44,173  
205-521-8369**

I hereby declare that all statements made herein of my own knowledge are true and that all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true; and further that these statements were made with the knowledge that willful false statements and the like so made are punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both, under Section 1001 of Title 18 of the United States Code and that such willful false statements may jeopardize the validity of the application or any patent issued thereon.

**Full Name of First Joint Inventor:** William W. Holmes, IV **Citizenship:** USA

**Residence:** 238 East Green, Birmingham, Alabama 35243-1871

**Post Office Address:** Same

William W. Holmes, IV  
Inventor's Signature

8 June 00  
Date

**Full Name of Second Joint Inventor:** Daniel A. Copeland **Citizenship:** USA

**Residence:** 5029 South Shades Crest Road, Bessemer, Alabama 35022-4123

**Post Office Address:** Same

D. A. Copeland  
Inventor's Signature

6-8-00  
Date

**POWER OF ATTORNEY:**

I, Joseph W. Spransy, am Vice President of United States Pipe and Foundry Company, which is by assignment the owner of the entire right, title, and interest in and to the invention described and claimed in the application for patent filed herewith, said application bearing the title at filing as follows: RESTRAINING GASKET FOR MECHANICAL JOINTS OF PIPES. In my capacity as Vice President, I am duly authorized to speak on behalf of the company with respect to all matters to which this document pertains. On behalf of United States Pipe and Foundry Company, I hereby appoint the following attorney(s) and/or agent(s) listed below to prosecute this application and transact all business in the Patent and Trademark Office connected therewith.

**All Registered Patent Practitioners whose Registration Numbers are associated with Customer Number 23378**

**Send Correspondence to:**

**The Correspondence Address associated with Customer Number 23378, to the specific ATTENTION of Nathan W. Johnson, Reg. No. 44,173**

**Direct Telephone Calls To:**

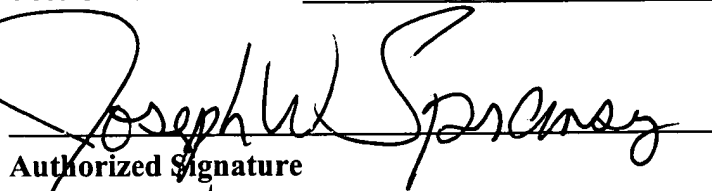
**Nathan W. Johnson,  
Reg. No. 44,173  
  
205-521-8369**

I hereby declare that all statements made herein of my own knowledge are true and that all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true; and further that these statements were made with the knowledge that willful false statements and the like so made are punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both, under Section 1001 of Title 18 of the United States Code and that such willful false statements may jeopardize the validity of the application or any patent issued thereon.

**Full Name of Assignee:** United States Pipe And Foundry Company **Citizenship:** Alabama, USA

**Principal Place of Business:** 3300 First Avenue North, Birmingham, AL 35222

**Post Office Address:** Same

  
**Authorized Signature**

June 8, 2000  
**Date**

Joseph W Spransy  
**Printed Name of Signatory**

Vice President  
**Position of Signatory**